

STAFF

Chief School Medical Officer:

ARNOLD BROWN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy School Medical Officer:

B. G. GRETTON-WATSON, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Senior Assistant School Medical Officer:

H. CRAIG, L.R.C.P. & S., L.R.F.P.S.

Assistant County Medical Officers:

J. G. BENNETT, M.D., Ch.B.

R. A. BLYTH, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

ENA CANT, M.B., Ch.B.

R. CARGILL, M.B., Ch.B.

R. J. CLARK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

JENNY CRAIG, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

AITOLIA ENGLISH, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.S., D.C.H.

CHRISTINA LAING, M.B., Ch.B.

ALTA STOUT, M.B., Ch.B.

JESSIE TOUGH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

GLADYS WILKINSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Divisional School Medical Officers:

Altrincham—

D. LONGBOTTOM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Bebington—

D. O. MACDONALD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Cheadle and Wilmslow—

D. G. ANDERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Crewe—

D. G. CRAWSHAW, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Deeside—

J. HATTON, M.D., D.P.H.

Hyde—

F. W. C. BROWN, M.D., D.P.H.

Macclesfield—

H. R. DUGDALE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Mid-Cheshire—

W. S. SLATER, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Nantwich—

R. K. HAY, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

N.E. Cheshire—

T. W. BRINDLE, M.B., Ch.B.

Runcorn—

E. N. H. GRAY, L.R.C.P. & S., L.M., D.P.H.

Sale and Lymm—

A. T. BURN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

S.E. Cheshire—

L. RICH, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

S.W. Cheshire—

W. J. BIRCHALL, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Stalybridge and Dukinfield—

T. HOLME, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Paediatrician (Part-time):

J. D. ALLAN, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Ophthalmic Surgeons (Part-time):

P. J. DEVLIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.
A. HOLMES-SMITH, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., D.O.M.S.
C. JACOBS, M.D., M.B., B.S.
E. RILEY, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.
L. R. C. ROSE, L.M.S.S.A., D.O.
D. OSWALD TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B.

Orthopaedic Surgeons (Part-Time):

T. JACKSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
J. L. MANGAN, F.R.C.S.I.
H. POSTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.
R. ROAF, M.A., F.R.C.S.
HUGH WILLIAMS, M.Ch., F.R.C.S.
M. E. WINSTON, F.R.C.S.

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon (Part-time):

E. M. INNES, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.

School Dental Surgeons:

H. R. PARRY, L.D.S. (Senior)
EDITH ANDREW, L.D.S.
J. B. ANDREW, B.D.S., R.C.S.
E. BRADLEY, L.D.S.
H. FOULKES, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.).
E. C. GRIFFIN, L.D.S.
A. F. HELY, L.D.S.
R. H. HURST, L.D.S.
H. JACKSON, L.D.S.
LISBETH KIPPEN, L.D.S., D.P.D.
A. N. LEICESTER, B.D.S.
F. C. LITTLETON, L.D.S.
F. E. LOCKWOOD, L.D.S.
MURIEL MANWOOD, L.D.S. (part-time).
H. P. MEEK, L.D.S.
SHEILA NEWELL, B.D.S.
J. S. O'BRIEN, L.D.S.
E. S. POULTER, L.D.S.
ISABEL SAUNSBURY, L.D.S. (Part-time).
H. W. S. SHEASBY, L.D.S.
DOROTHY WALKER, L.D.S. (Part-time).

Health Visitors and School Nurses: 94.

Dental Nurses and Attendants: 21.

Clerk-Attendants: 9.

Speech Therapists.

RAYLEEN EATON, L.C.S.T.
KATHLEEN JONES, L.C.S.T.
MELBA LOWES, L.C.S.T.
MOYNA MANSFIELD, L.C.S.T.

Chief Administrative Assistant: B. O'CONNOR, M.A.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR 1951.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Education Committee.*

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Schools Health Service dealing with the work done during the year 1951.

A full staff of Assistant Medical Officers was maintained throughout the year. Nineteen full-time and three part-time Dental Surgeons are now employed compared with the normal establishment of twenty-four. The vacancies necessitated dentists leaving their own areas for periods each week in order to deal with emergency work arising in those areas where no dentist can be appointed. Nevertheless it will be noted that 73% of all enrolled pupils were dentally inspected and that the acceptance rate for treatment was 74%.

Constructional work has now commenced on the new Clinic Centres at Cheadle, Heswall and Neston. The adaptations to provide a Clinic Centre for Runcorn are well under way and should shortly be completed. The new Dental Clinics at Bebington and Eastham were opened during the year, and premises were adapted at Crewe to provide speech therapy facilities in that town.

The Special Services Sub-Committee considered a report on the diagnosis of deafness in school children and the educational treatment of such children as are found to be handicapped in this way. In particular, the methods for early diagnosis and the possibility of providing special education for partially deaf children at day schools instead of at residential schools was considered.

At the present time, owing to the cessation of the work carried out on behalf of the Cheshire authority at the Manchester Child Guidance Clinic, facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of Mal-adjusted children are very severely limited. The Senior School Medical Officer spends a great deal of his time in investigating these

children, but it is felt that this is not sufficient and is no solution to a serious problem. It is a fact that there is a shortage of psychiatrists willing to take up work in child psychiatry, and both psychiatrists and psychiatric social workers seem to prefer to work in association with hospitals. It would therefore seem that action by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board is required before any adequate Child Guidance Service can be established for the eastern half of the County. There is still an urgent need for a hostel for maladjusted children.

Through the co-operation of the Hospital Authority, 100 places are now occupied by educationally sub-normal children at the Mary Dendy Hospital. When Grappenhall Hall and Trafford Hall are ready to receive pupils, the Mary Dendy Schools will be abandoned so far as the Education Authority is concerned, and the number of educationally sub-normal children receiving residential education and training in the county will be doubled. There will be the further benefit of increasing the accommodation for mentally defectives.

Discussions have taken place with the Manchester Regional Hospital Board with a view to associating the work done at the School Ophthalmic Clinics with the hospitals in the area.

It is regretted that a number of hospitals which receive Cheshire school children as in-patients still fail to notify discharges.

I acknowledge with gratitude the help and co-operation which I have invariably received from members of the Education Committee, the Director of Education, the County Architect, the Teaching Staff at the various schools and all the staff of the School Health Service.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

ARNOLD BROWN,

1st October, 1952.

Chief School Medical Officer.

General Statistics

The Administrative County of Cheshire comprises 43 County Districts, namely 9 Municipal Boroughs, 24 Urban Districts and 10 Rural Districts.

The population estimated by the Registrar-General at mid-1951 was 822,800.

The total number of Schools in the educational area at 31-3-51, with their enrolments, was as follows:—

Primary	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	455	69079
Secondary	(Grammar)	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	9189
„	(Modern)	.....	.....	.....	.....	56	17339

At the end of 1951, there were 78,163 children receiving school milk, and 53,016 receiving school meals.

Four schools were closed by the Chief School Medical Officer in 1951 on account of infectious disease, as compared with 1 in 1950.

The School Dental Service in 1951

Mr. H. R. Parry, Senior Dental Surgeon, reports:—

The average staff of Dentists during 1951 was equivalent to 16½ full-time officers.

The normal routine Dental Inspection and Treatment of school children has been carried out in all but 4 areas in the County during the year.

In these four areas a Dental Officer has been in attendance at a clinic for one whole day per week in each of the 4 Divisions, but with the time at his disposal could only attempt the removal of sepsis and an almost negligible number of fillings.

Of the 73248 children inspected, 44852 or 61% were referred for treatment, 33230 or 74% actually treated, 37376 extractions (including 4500 permanent teeth) and 30144 fillings (including 3500 temporary teeth).

The amount of work carried out compares favourably with that of 1950, 7000 more teeth having been extracted and 1600 less fillings inserted. It is unfortunate that the number of extractions is larger than the number of fillings but this results from the large number of extractions with practically no fillings in the 4 areas mentioned above.

The percentage of acceptances has dropped a few points to 74% but again it is on account of the 4 areas, where the Dental Officers had no time in which to interview the children and parents who had refused treatment, otherwise very little time would have been left in which to carry out treatment. Another reason is that many more children are now being treated by their own private Dental Surgeon.

Two fully equipped clinics have been opened during the year and we now have at least one clinic for each Division of the County, with the exception of the Wirral, where if the present financial position of the country allows, 3 clinics are planned to be opened in 1952.

The usual high standard of work has been maintained and although our staff is somewhat depleted, we still very definitely aim at quality before quantity.

Once again we offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to all Head Teachers for the kindly help and co-operation which are always forthcoming and without which our School Dental Service would suffer considerably.

School Clinics.

Completed:—

New Ferry St. Mark's—alterations.

Plymyard Dental.

Dukinfield—New Pram Shelter and improvements.

School Buildings.

New School Buildings in course of erection:—

Macclesfield Gawsworth Road Primary School.

Cuddington Primary School.

Bebington Heath Road Primary School.

Ellesmere Port Baker Road Primary School.

Crewe Maw Green Primary School.

Crewe Totty's Hall Primary School.

Sale Firs Road Primary School.

Altrincham Sinderland Road Primary School.

Greasby Mill Lane Primary School.

Weaverham Primary Infants' School.

Bromborough Acre Lane Secondary School.

Knutsford Secondary School.

Pensby Secondary Schools.

Stockton Heath Secondary School.

Alterations completed:—

Nantwich and Acton Grammar School Extensions.

Major Alterations in progress:—

Crewe Totty's Hall Estate Technical College Extensions.

Eastham Carlett Park Proposed Technical College.

Sale Ashton-on-Mersey Secondary School Extensions.

Bebington Town Lane Primary School Extensions.

Winsford Grammar School Extensions, Stage II.

Calday Grange Grammar School Extensions.

Cheadle Moseley Hall Grammar School Extensions.

In addition numerous minor alterations and adaptations were carried out.

SPECIAL SERVICES REPORTS

Ear, Nose and Throat Service

In the E.N.T. Service, the shortage of beds for tonsil and adenoid operations continues to be an urgent problem. It is hoped, however, shortly to commence an extra weekly operating session. This should ease matters considerably and reduce the huge waiting list. At present everything is being done to expedite the admission of urgent cases. Long delay in some of these can be extremely detrimental to the health of the child.

There was no stoppage of operating by a poliomyelitis epidemic as occurred the previous year.

The number of cases of long-standing chronic otorrhœa has now diminished. This shows the good effect of regular and prolonged treatment in these cases.

Close co-operation continues with the General Practitioners and also with the Paediatric Service.

ATTENDANCES AT E.N.T. CLINICS, 1951

Alsager	72	Hazel Grove	31
Altrincham	11	Macclesfield	87
Bollington	20	Middlewich	14
Cheadle	85	Northwich	47
Congleton	15	Poynton	17
Crewe	28	Sale	9
Dukinfield	58	Sandbach	71
Ellesmere Port	287	Wilmslow	4
Frodsham	2	Winsford	29

Ophthalmic Service

The year 1951 has seen a further return to the dispersion of the Ophthalmic services amongst a number of ophthalmologists due to an increase in the hospital duties of your Ophthalmologist. Whilst this is a disadvantage in that diversity of method makes comparison between varying clinics difficult it does carry the advantage of a closer liaison between ophthalmic school clinics and the associated hospitals and this is certainly of great benefit as was foreseen by your Committee at the time of the appointment of a County Ophthalmic Surgeon. The service would be further enhanced in value were it possible for all those ophthalmologists who work in it to be actively associated with the hospitals serving the areas in which their clinics lie, as in this way only can full co-ordination of hospital and clinic treatment be obtained.

It will be noted that despite a greater number of patients examined there is a decrease in the number of spectacles advised. It is my own opinion that, even where essential, glasses are a burden to an active child since the frames are easily deformed or broken. In this respect it should be noticed that your Education Authority bears the additional cost of non-splintering lenses where the Ophthalmologist considers them desirable on grounds of safety of the child's eyes. This facility undoubtedly removes a load from the minds of parents especially in the case of small children who require glasses on account of a squint. Accidents to the eye from broken lenses are fortunately comparatively rare but when they do occur useful sight is almost invariably lost in the affected eye, indeed the eye may require to be removed.

The year has seen the firm establishment of the Orthoptic Clinic at West Park Hospital, Macclesfield, and its usefulness may be gauged from the fact that despite three half-day sessions each week it has a small waiting list for treatment. Parents appreciate this clinic which fits in with the policy already mentioned of treating patients under the same Ophthalmologist as far as is possible.

ATTENDANCES AT EYE CLINICS, 1951.

Alsager	127	Lymm	97
Bollington	78	Macclesfield	579
Bredbury	51	Marple	41
Cheadle	141	Middlewich	186
Cheadle Hulme	46	Nantwich	228
Congleton	155	New Ferry	732
Disley	13	Northwich	447
Dukinfield	595	Poynton	43
Ellesmere Port	562	Romiley	5
Frodsham	196	Runcorn	625
Hale	344	Sale	323
Hazel Grove	120	Sandbach	442
Heswall	204	Stalybridge	595
Hoole	168	Stockton Heath	143
Hoylake	184	Tarporley	75
Hyde	274	Wilmslow	128
Knutsford	6	Winsford	297

Paediatric Service

The paediatric service has continued to operate during the past year on a basis of two sessions per week. In spite of the relatively small number of sessions a reasonable contact has been maintained with the School Health Service throughout the year. The School Medical Officers are interested and co-operative and in most instances make a point of following up the cases they refer and discussing with the Paediatrician any problems which arise.

Fuller use of the consultative clinics could be made by the general practitioners. The most active and best of the various clinics from all points of view and in particular from the specific point of view of use by general practitioners are the two in Crewe. Every effort is made to maintain liaison with the practitioner in each case, in particular by ensuring that a full report of every case is sent to the practitioner.

Any case requiring further investigation is admitted to Hospital at Macclesfield or Stockport if hospital investigation or treatment is required. Cases who need further investigation which can be done as an Out-patient are brought to central Chest and Heart Clinics at Macclesfield where appropriate X-rays, skin tests and other specialist investigations are carried out.

In general, therefore, most illnesses and disabilities can be adequately investigated, treated and supervised.

There is still, however, a great need for the establishment of a consultative psychiatric or child guidance clinic for cases referred to all the clinics.

There is also need for a therapeutic centre for training and rehabilitation of spastic children, and as a side issue greater facilities for speech therapy could adequately be used.

Finally, a monthly ward round and tutorial has been continued, has been well attended and has, I think, been enjoyed both by the School Medical Officers and the Paediatrician.

ATTENDANCES AT PAEDIATRIC CLINICS, 1951.

Altrincham.....	29	Hazel Grove	17
Crewe, Ludford Street	57	Hyde, Parsonage Street.....	19
Crewe, Stalbridge Road	53	Sale	27
Dukinfield	6	Stalybridge	8

Orthopaedic Service

Since 5th July, 1948, the orthopaedic service has been the financial responsibility of Regional Hospital Boards under the National Health Service Act. The County Council has been able to arrange for the existing clinics—the longest established of the specialist services—to continue unaltered, the specialist surgeons and the physiotherapists attending as before. The methods of ascertainment remain the same, children being referred to the surgeons by private doctors, or (with the approval of the private doctor) by School Medical Officers after medical inspection at schools or minor ailment clinics.

ATTENDANCES AT ORTHOPAEDIC CLINICS, 1951

Bebington	1083	Macclesfield	1201
Congleton	513	Northwich	107
Crewe	280	Runcorn	175
Dukinfield	1988	Sale	71
Ellesmere Port	611	Stalybridge	1642
Hoylelake	437	Stockton Heath	108
Hyde	1143		

Children attending for sunlight treatment are the responsibility of the local authority unless referred for it by the specialist. The following were the attendances during 1951 by school children at the clinics specified:—

Congleton	20
Dukinfield	1882
Hyde	592
New Ferry	1038
Sale	1046
Stalybridge	2371

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

Numbers Resident in Special Schools, 1951.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED.

Crippled (non-tuberculous).

	Boys	Girls	Total
Biddulph, Orthopaedic Hospital	8	4	12
Carshalton, Queen Mary's Hospital	—	1	1
Croydon, St. Margaret's	—	1	1
Hartshill, Orthopaedic Hospital (3—16 years)	3	4	7
Heswall, Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital (3—16 years)	2	6	8
Leasowe, Liverpool Open-Air Hospital (2—19 years)	14	14	28
Liverpool, Alder Hey Hospital School	2	1	3
Malmesbury, Burton Hill House School	—	1	1
Manchester, Bethesda Children's Home	4	1	5
Marple, Children's Orthopaedic Hospital (2-16 years)	6	9	15
Oswestry, Orthopaedic Hospital (3-16 years)	22	28	50
Taplow, Canadian Red Cross Hospital	—	1	1
Thingwall, Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital (3-16 years)	1	—	1

Heart.

Heswall, Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital (3-16 yrs.)	3	1	4
Leasowe, Liverpool Open-Air Hospital (2-19 years)	1	3	4
London, Guy's and Evelina Hospital Special School	—	1	1
West Wickham, Children's Heart Hospital	—	1	1

Tuberculous.

Abergele Sanatorium	1	1	2
Biddulph, Orthopaedic Hospital	2	3	5
Hartshill, Orthopaedic Hospital (3-16 years)	—	4	4
Heswall, Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital (3-16 yrs.)	—	1	1
Leasowe Open-Air Hospital (2-19 years)	7	8	15
Marple, Children's Orthopaedic Hospital (2-16 years)	5	1	6
Oswestry, Orthopaedic Hospital (3-16 years)	7	4	11
Ulverston, High Carley Sanatorium	—	2	2
Wigan, Wrightington Hospital	4	1	5

Blind and Partially Sighted.

Birkenhead, Hamilton Secondary School for the Partially Sighted	1	—	1
Chalfont, St. Peter Colony	1	—	1
Chorley Wood, College for Blind	—	2	2
Kingswinford, Sunshine Home Nursery School for the Blind	1	—	1
Liverpool, Catholic Blind School	1	—	1
Liverpool, Wavertree School for Blind	3	2	5
Manchester, Henshaw's Institution for the Blind	3	1	4
Preston, Fulwood School for the Partially Sighted	2	2	4
Worcester College for the Blind	2	—	2

Deaf and Partially Deaf.

Boston Spa, St. John's Roman Catholic Institution	1	—	1
Liverpool, Oxford Street School for Deaf	1	2	3
Manchester, Royal Residential School for the Deaf	31	27	58
Newbury, Donnington Lodge School	1	—	1
Newbury, Mary Hare Grammar School	—	1	1
Southport, Liverpool School for Partially Deaf	3	2	5
Stoke-on-Trent, North Staffordshire Deaf School	2	2	4

Delicate and Various.

Frankby, Torpenhow (7-13 years)	141	99	240
Heswall, Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital (3-16 yrs.)	2	9	11
Leasowe, Liverpool Open-Air Hospital (2-19 years)	3	3	6
London, Gt. Ormonde Street Hospital	—	1	1
Pendlebury, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital	3	1	4

EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL.

Aberdeen, Camphill (Rudolf Steiner) School	1	1	2
Alderley Edge, Mary Dendy	61	37	98
Liverpool, Allerton Priory R.C. School	—	3	3
Ormskirk, Pontville R.C. School	1	—	1
Stroud, St. Thomas More's School	2	—	2
Warwick, Vineyard School	1	—	1

Epileptic.

Alderley Edge, Colthurst House	6	2	8
Alderley Edge, Soss Moss	1	—	1
Liverpool, Maghull House	2	—	2

Maladjusted.

Beckenham, Bethlem Royal Hospital School	—	1	1
Liverpool, Aymestry Court	1	—	1

Speech.

Oxted, Moor House School	1	—	1
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RESIDENT IN BOARDING HOMES AND
ATTENDING ORDINARY SCHOOLS, 1951.

Diabetic.

	Boys	Girls	Total
Deal, St. Monica's, Kingsdown	—	1	1
Frodsham, Fir Bank Home	2	1	3
Harpenden	1	—	1

Maladjusted.

Birmingham, Diocesan Hostel	—	1	1
Rawtenstall, Brynbella Hostel	1	—	1
Rochdale, Dunsterville Home	—	1	1

Physical Education.

The Director of Education reports as follows for the year ended 31st July, 1951:—

The comprehensive nature of a really satisfactory scheme of Physical Education is now more fully realised than ever before. It is recognised that a balanced, complete and effective education must include liberally conceived physical education, and that satisfactory conditions, skilful teachers and adequate time are needed. Although conditions in some schools are far from satisfactory, especially in the older buildings, there is an ever growing improvement in conditions generally. New schools now enjoy the best of facilities with excellent playgrounds, good central halls and well laid-out playing fields. Each succeeding year sees more improvements to playgrounds not previously surfaced, but there are still many voluntary school playgrounds which need repair. Schools which have been granted 'Controlled' status are now enjoying much better facilities for physical education, which have been provided by the Authority. School playing fields are now receiving attention which has been long overdue, and although work on playing fields is restricted by the need for economy there has been considerable improvement during the past year in a number of large schools, which will soon have really excellent and well-maintained facilities for organised games.

The fact that during the past year 580 women and 328 men attended courses on physical education for teachers in Primary Schools, conducted by the Authority's Organisers of Physical Education, is proof of the desire of teachers to keep up to date with modern methods of teaching. Many skilful teachers of Physical Education are now to be found in our schools.

Adequate time is given to the subject in most schools—a daily period of physical activity should be the aim of all schools—and in addition many schools arrange out-of-school activities referred to later in this report.

PHYSICAL EXERCISE.

During the past year special emphasis has been laid on the teaching of physical education in Primary Schools. Eight special Evening Courses for women teachers and eight for men were held during the year, and were well attended. Other courses are being arranged to give all teachers opportunities for observing and practising modern methods of teaching, in which movement training, initiative and individual practice, play a most important part. These courses also entailed careful preparation and keen observation by the teachers. One effect of the training received by Primary School teachers attending these courses has been the infusion of a really happy spirit into the lessons.

Schools have done good work by producing much very useful improvised apparatus, much of which can be used very effectively and quite safely, and they are gradually building up satisfactory supplies of small equipment, and what is equally important, are attending to its proper maintenance and storage, often under difficult conditions.

It is most desirable that all children should change into suitable clothing for physical exercises and games. In many schools this is the practice, but owing to the increased prices of suitable footwear, vests, shorts, knickers, blouses, etc., pupils are finding it difficult to provide their own clothing.

ORGANISED GAMES.

Reference has already been made to the improvement of school playing fields. While some games, such as football can be played on roughish land, others such as hockey, cricket and tennis, require pitches with a true surface and really satisfactory standards of performance cannot be hoped for in schools where these conditions do not exist. Much attention is now being given by teachers to good coaching.

Association football is played in almost all schools. The introduction of men teachers into the Primary Schools has done much to improve the play of younger boys. Rugby football is mainly confined to some of the Grammar Schools, but it may be introduced into some Secondary Modern Schools in the near future.

Many schools are handicapped in playing cricket by the lack of satisfactory pitches. Last season a number of schools were provided with double concrete practice wickets, and they have testified to the great value of such wickets, which give a true surface for both bowling and batting practice. It is hoped to comment more fully on the value of concrete cricket pitches after perhaps another year of experience of them.

Hockey has been introduced into a few more schools and enthusiasm runs high. Teachers have attended courses in hockey coaching organised by the Cheshire Women's Hockey Association, and a number of schools have arranged showings of the instructional film prepared by the All England Women's Hockey Association,

More tennis is being introduced into Cheshire schools, due chiefly to the provision of new courts, repair of old ones, and the further hiring of public courts. Of all games played in schools, tennis has probably the greatest "carry-over" value for girls, and for this reason advantage should be taken by schools of any facilities which can be obtained locally.

Rounders and netball continue to be played in almost all schools, including the top classes in the Primary Schools.

ATHLETICS.

In no branch of physical education has there been such increased interest as in athletics for boys and girls. Throughout the County girls as well as boys are being more and more effectively coached in various athletic events, and standards of performance have improved considerably. There is now every opportunity for the best boy and girl athletes to make their way from individual School Sports Meetings, through district and County Meetings, to National Meetings.

During Easter week a residential course in athletics was organised for men and women teachers at Reaseheath. This course was arranged in co-operation with the Amateur Athletics Association, which supplied one of its National coaches as chief coach for the Course. He was assisted by the Organisers of Physical Education. This was the first course of its kind to be organised by an L.E.A. and it was undoubtedly very successful. The sixteen men and ten women who attended the Course gained much practical and theoretical knowledge of athletics, and they have done much to increase the interest and enthusiasm for the subject in their schools.

Now that teachers are gaining experience in the use of proper athletics equipment, increased supplies are being obtained for the use of senior boys and girls.

SWIMMING.

The standard of swimming in the County schools remains high and there is every evidence of good basic teaching, especially among the learners. While general stroke work is good, diving remains weak and the standard of life-saving could be improved in some schools.

During the year, 24,986 boys and girls attended various baths for swimming instruction, making a total of 230,822 attendances. Of 15,036 non-swimmers at the beginning of the season, 4,566 learned to swim.

As a result of the tests carried out by the Organisers of Physical Education, the following certificates were awarded:—Advanced 316; 1st Grade 1,681, 2nd Grade 3,134. This is a considerable increase in the number reported last year. Boys and girls who entered for awards of the Royal Life-saving Society gained 355 awards, which included 135 Bronze Medallions, 100 Intermediate and 50 Elementary Certificates.

DANCING.

A wide variety of dancing is taught throughout the County, with Natural Movement, Greek, Modern Educational, and National Dancing in some Grammar Schools, Modern, Natural and Folk Dancing in the Secondary Modern Schools, and Folk Dancing in the Primary Schools.

The standard varies but the dancing is none the less enjoyed by all who take part. Boys are dancing in increasing numbers in both Secondary Modern and Primary Schools.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.

The increase in, and success of, out-of-school activities mentioned in last year's report have been fully maintained during the past year. These activities, which play a very important part in physical education in its widest sense, are many and varied. They have their beginnings with individual school teams and parties. In games, swimming, athletics, and similar activities, successful performers graduate as representatives of area, county or even national teams. Throughout the county there are many schools Sports Associations which organise competitions at school, area and county level, whilst other associations arrange activities on a purely friendly basis. All these activities entail a great deal of organisation, and tribute is paid to the many very willing teachers, both men and women, who give their free time voluntarily to the coaching and care of many school and district teams, and who organise the many competitions which take place. There is no doubt that standards are improved by competition.

Schoolboy football caters for many hundred of boys every week in the season, chiefly on Saturdays. There are inter-school and inter-district competitions which engage large numbers of boys, and later in the season County and International matches are arranged.

In athletics, much prominence has been given to inter-district sports meetings, organised by district schools athletics associations and a county meeting was held at Crewe at which representatives of district associations took part. A county team of approximately 60 boys and girls was chosen to represent Cheshire schools in the National Inter-Counties Athletics Festival held at Southampton. In the final placings Cheshire was tenth out of thirty-five Counties competing—a very satisfactory result, considering that it was only the second time Cheshire schools had entered the National Festival.

Cricket is not so highly organised as football or athletics, but many inter-school games are played during the summer.

Swimming continues to receive much attention as an out-of-school activity. In addition to individual school and district galas in many areas, the County Schools Swimming Association held its annual gala at Crewe.

Games for girls such as hockey, tennis, rounders and netball are arranged in the main on a friendly basis, without any leagues or inter-district competitions, but a large number of girls take part in these games, especially in Grammar and Secondary Modern Schools.

There are voluntary clubs for educational dancing, and social clubs for community dancing. Quite a number of schools send teams to the Folk Dance Festivals organised by the Festival Committee of the English Folk Dance Society at such centres as Chester and Alderley Edge; South East Cheshire included Folk Dancing in their Schools' Musical Festival and the standard reached was exceedingly encouraging.

Other out-of-school activities include Rugby football (grammar schools only), camping, youth hostelling, canoeing, rambling, etc., all of which create a love of the open air; besides helping to maintain physical fitness, they encourage qualities of endurance, good behaviour, and respect for the countryside.

These many out-of-school activities play a very important part in the life of schools, and their true worth is now becoming more fully recognised.

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

Year ended 31st December, 1951

TABLE I

Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups—			
Entrants	.....	.....	10557
Second Age Group	.....	.....	6835
Third Age Group	.....	.....	7084
Total			24476
Number of other Periodic Inspections	.....	.....	Nil
Grand Total			24476

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	.....	.....	5896
Number of Re-Inspections	.....	.....	8036
Total			13932

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)

Group	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	125	1916	2020
Second Age Group	448	741	1168
Third Age Group	561	638	1172
Total (prescribed groups)	1134	3295	4348
Other Periodic Inspections	Nil	Nil	Nil
Grand Total	1134	3295	4348

TABLE II

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
		Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under ob- servation but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under ob- servation, but not requiring treatment
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	Skin ———	176	161	47	11
5	Eyes—				
	(a) Vision ———	1134	912	572	251
	(b) Squint ———	213	208	46	33
	(c) Other ———	159	67	27	8
6	Ears—				
	(a) Hearing ———	53	162	10	27
	(b) Otitis Media ———	64	79	14	16
	(c) Other ———	70	50	13	7
7	Nose or Throat ———	1230	2179	246	242
8	Speech ———	86	189	29	57
9	Cervical Glands ———	32	805	4	137
10	Heart and Circulation ———	64	384	20	61
11	Lungs ———	189	514	35	108
12	Developmental—				
	(a) Hernia ———	27	42	2	3
	(b) Other ———	31	69	11	11
13	Orthopaedic—				
	(a) Posture ———	174	162	41	28
	(b) Flat Foot ———	230	318	34	53
	(c) Other ———	183	222	39	34
14	Nervous System—				
	(a) Epilepsy ———	18	34	9	17
	(b) Other ———	32	36	7	19
15	Psychological—				
	(a) Development ———	13	151	6	136
	(b) Stability ———	13	90	4	33
16	Other—	317	279	74	112

**B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF
PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN AGE GROUPS**

Age Groups	No. of Pupils Inspected	A (Good)		B (Fair)		C (Poor)	
		No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	10557	3905	37.1	6232	59.0	420	3.9
Second Age Group	6835	2580	37.8	3802	55.6	453	6.6
Third Age Group	7084	3681	52.0	3174	44.8	229	3.2
Other Periodic Inspections	Nil	Nil	—	Nil	—	Nil	—
Total	24476	10166	41.5	13208	54.0	1102	4.5

TABLE III
Infestation with Vermin

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons —	—	251002
(ii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils examined —	—	96126
(iii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested		5694
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) — — — — —		430
(v) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) — — — — —		30

TABLE IV.

Treatment of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools.

GROUP I.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table III).

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year..
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	10
(ii) Body	27
Scabies	44
Impetigo	987
Other skin diseases	1353
Total ...	2421

GROUP II.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	Number of cases dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	2060
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	5988
Total ...	8048
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were	
(a) Prescribed	2985
(b) Obtained	2646

GROUP III.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

	Number of cases treated
Received operative treatment	
(a) for diseases of the ear	13
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis ...	810
(c) for other nose and throat conditions ...	6
Received other forms of treatment	1872
Total ...	2701

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

(a) No. treated as in-patients in hospitals	201
(b) No. treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patient departments	1570

GROUP V—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT.			
No. of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics ...	...	...	33
GROUP VI—SPEECH THERAPY.			
No. of pupils treated by Speech Therapists ...	...	...	524
GROUP VII—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.			
Miscellaneous Minor Ailments ...	...	...	15841

TABLE V

Dental Inspection and Treatment

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—			
(a) Periodic Age groups	—	—	65614
(b) Specials	—	—	7634
(c) TOTAL (Periodic and Specials)	—	—	73248
(2) Number found to require treatment	—	—	46639
(3) Number referred for treatment	—	—	44852
(4) Number actually treated	—	—	33230
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	—	—	43974
(6) Half-days devoted to : (a) Inspection	—	—	719
(b) Treatment	—	—	6145
Total (a) and (b)	—	—	6864
(7) Fillings	Permanent Teeth	—	26658
	Temporary Teeth	—	3486
Total	—	—	30144
(8) Number of teeth filled : Permanent Teeth	—	—	19702
Temporary Teeth	—	—	3163
Total	—	—	22865
(9) Extractions :	Permanent Teeth	—	4591
	Temporary Teeth	—	32785
Total	—	—	37376
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	—	—	7038
(11) Other Operations :	(a) Permanent Teeth	—	5877
	(b) Temporary Teeth	—	1151
Total (a) and (b)	—	—	7028

